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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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THE Committee for publishing the Proceedings of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY present in this volume the record of the meetings of the Society from April, 1880, to June, 1881, inclusive. Agreeably to the Society's custom, the stated meetings for July and August were dispensed with in each year. This volume contains then the record of thirteen meetings, embracing, among other interesting and valuable communications, the relation of the Sagadahoc colony, being a transcript of a manuscript used in an abridged form by Strachey, in his "Historie of Travaile," with preface and notes by Mr. De Costa, offered to the Society through Mr. Deane; Professor Young's paper on the subjects of the orations for the degree of Master of Arts at Harvard College, from 1655 to 1791; Mr. Emerson's essay on Thomas Carlyle; Dr. Ellis's remarks on the poem "The King's Mis-sive," with his and Mr. Whittier's letters on the same; Mr. Ames's account of the part taken by Massachusetts in the expedition against Carthage under Admiral Vernon; and the President, Mr. Winthrop's paper on the portrait of John Hampden at Washington.

The volume contains also memoirs of thirteen deceased Resident Members;—that of the Hon. John G. King, by William P. Upham; of the Hon. John A. Andrew, by Peleg W. Chandler; of Mr. Lemuel Shattuck, by Charles Hudson; of the Hon. Thomas G. Cary, by J. Elliot Cabot; of Joseph E. Worcester, LL.D., by Dr. William Newell; of the Rev.

Charles Brooks, by Solomon Lincoln ; of Mr. Sylvester Judd, by Charles Deane ; of Mr. George Sumner, by Robert C. Waterston ; of the Rev. Dr. Edmund H. Sears, by Chandler Robbins ; of the Hon. Nathan Hale, by Samuel K. Lothrop ; of the Hon. George R. Russell, by Theodore Lyman ; of Gen. William H. Sumner, by Alonzo H. Quint ; and that of Mr. Robert M. Mason, by Robert C. Winthrop, Jr. The unusually large number of these papers in this volume is due to the action of the Society in January, 1880, in appointing a special committee on memoirs of deceased resident members [see Proceedings, Vol. XVII., pp. 299, 314, 315], and to the vigorous efforts of the chairman of that committee. It is hoped that the succeeding volume may include almost all of the overdue tributes of this kind owing by the Society.

For the frontispiece of the volume the Committee have selected a heliotype of the crossed swords of Colonel Prescott and Captain Linzee, which, after adorning the library of a distinguished historian for many years, have rested over the entrance to the Dowse Library since 1859. This heliotype was made originally for the Bunker Hill Monument Association to illustrate the address of Mr. Winthrop at the unveiling of the statue of Col. Prescott, June 17, 1881. The other illustrations are :— a portrait of Governor Andrew at page 41 ; and an albertype of his dedicatory inscription in a book by Mrs. Child, given by him to his sisters while he was still a college student, opposite page 47. Mr. Chandler, to whose kindness the Society are indebted for the use of the negative of the portrait, says that the Governor thought this the best likeness taken of him. At page 94 will be found a heliotype facsimile of the title-page of the manuscript relating to the Sagadahoc colony, used by Strachey in his "Historie of Travaile." The memoir of Dr. Worcester is illustrated by his portrait at page 169, and that of the Rev. Charles Brooks by his portrait at page 174. An excellent portrait of Mr. Mason is prefixed to Mr. R. C. Winthrop, Jr.'s memoir of

him at page 302. This portrait and that of Mr. Brooks were kindly furnished by the families of these gentlemen. And finally between pages 318 and 319 is placed a reduced facsimile in heliotype of the earliest known print of Price's view of Harvard College.

The Recording Secretary is *ex officio* chairman of the committee to publish these proceedings. The undersigned found himself unable to perform the duties of his office last October, and was obliged to spend the eight following months in Europe. The Society declined, in a very complimentary manner, to accept his resignation, and his friend, the Rev. Henry W. Foote, kindly agreed to act as Secretary *pro tempore*. The Rev. Edward G. Porter also acted at one meeting which Mr. Foote was unable to attend. To the generous labors of these gentlemen, and to the other members of the committee, Messrs. Smith and Green, the Society are indebted for the preparation of the larger part of the volume.

GEORGE DEXTER.

BOSTON, August 18, 1881.